

# Junior Ranger

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

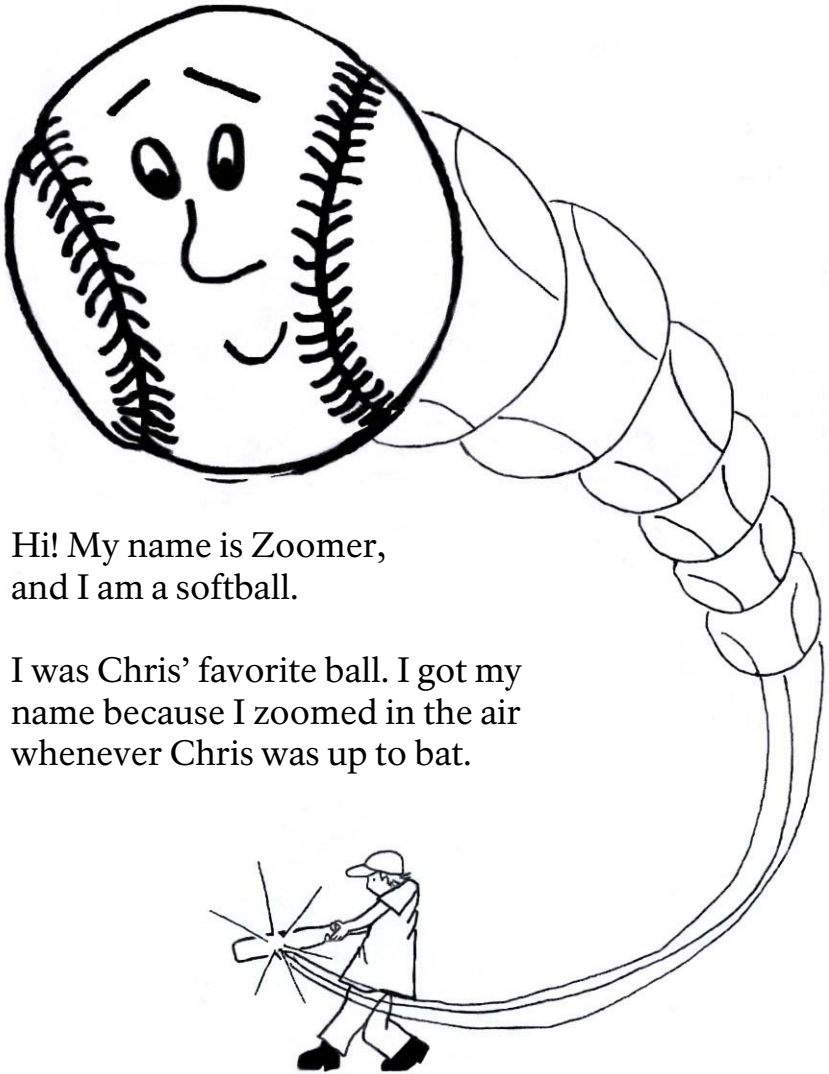


## Junior Ranger Storybook for Younger Children



## Flight 93 National Memorial

This story can be read  
quietly before, during or  
after a visit to Flight 93  
National Memorial site. It  
is about tributes and how  
they honor the passengers  
and crew of Flight 93. The  
following tributes are  
explained in particular:  
firefighter and police gear,  
badges, flags, hats, the  
benches, and the 40 angels  
at the edge of the site as you  
look over the field.



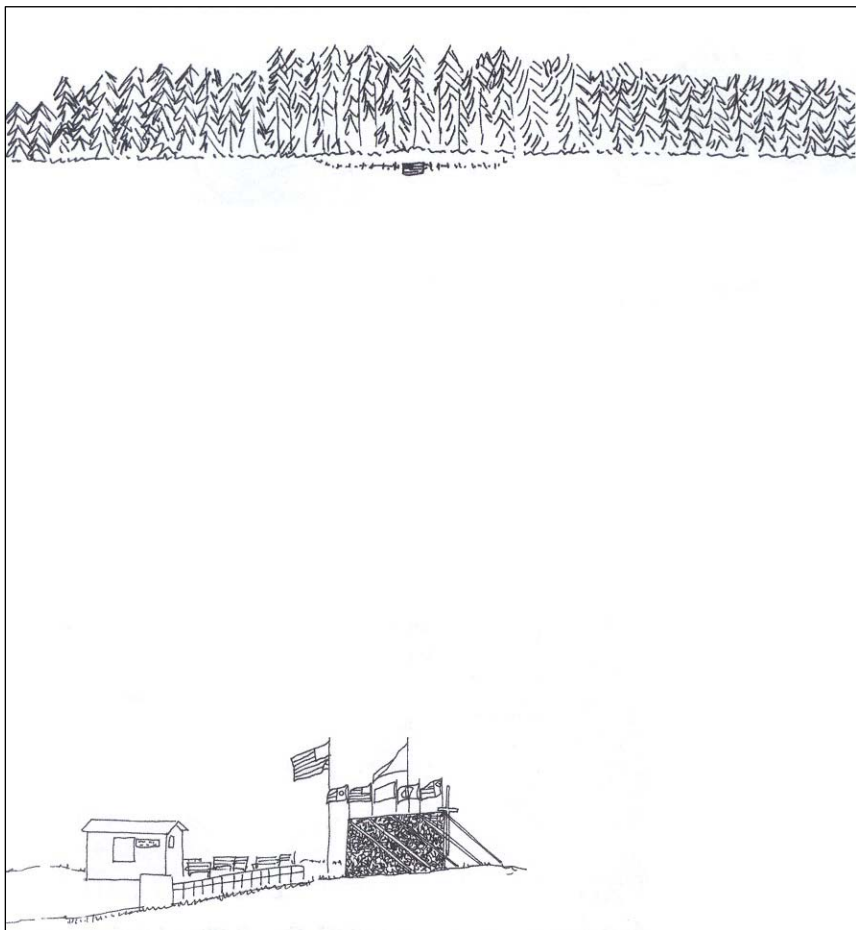
Hi! My name is Zoomer,  
and I am a softball.

I was Chris' favorite ball. I got my  
name because I zoomed in the air  
whenever Chris was up to bat.

We made a great team and had lots of fun  
together! We had just played a game with  
the whole family before visiting the  
Flight 93 National Memorial.  
This is the story of how I became a **tribute**.

What did you see first when you drove over the hill to the memorial?

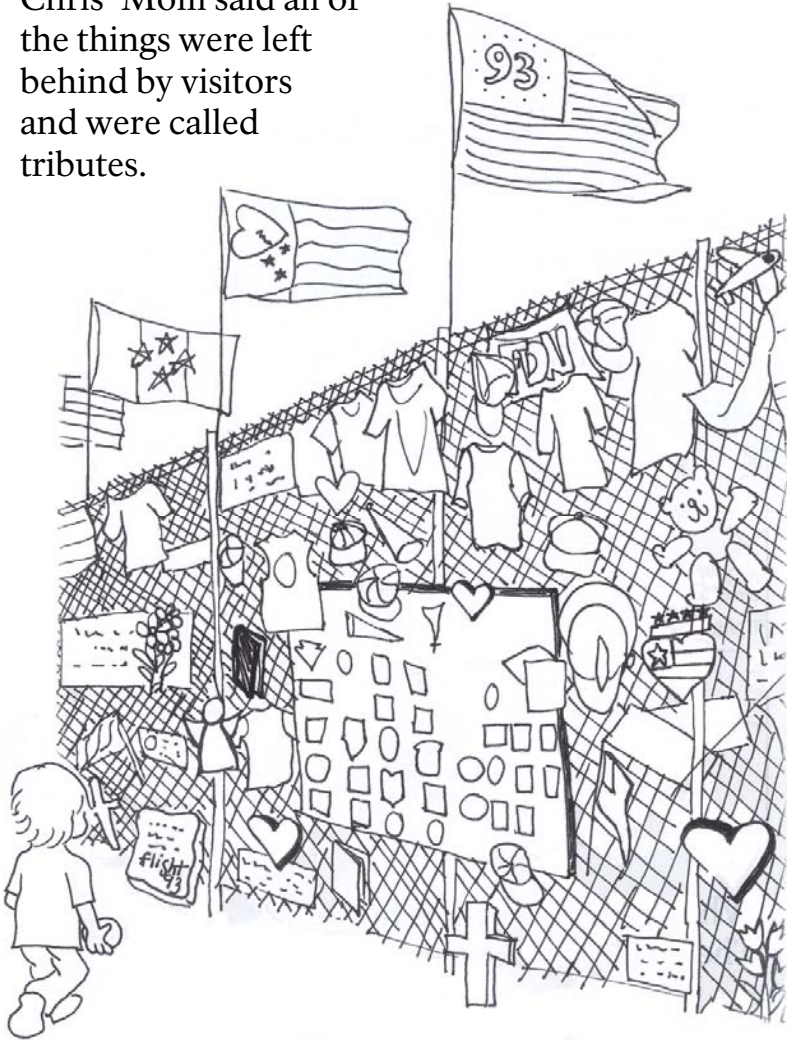
The big field with trees around it, or the big fence, or all the cars?



I saw the field first. It was so big!  
Then I saw a wall that reached up to the sky.

When we got closer, I found it wasn't a wall! It was a fence that was filled with all sorts of things hanging on it.

Chris' Mom said all of the things were left behind by visitors and were called tributes.

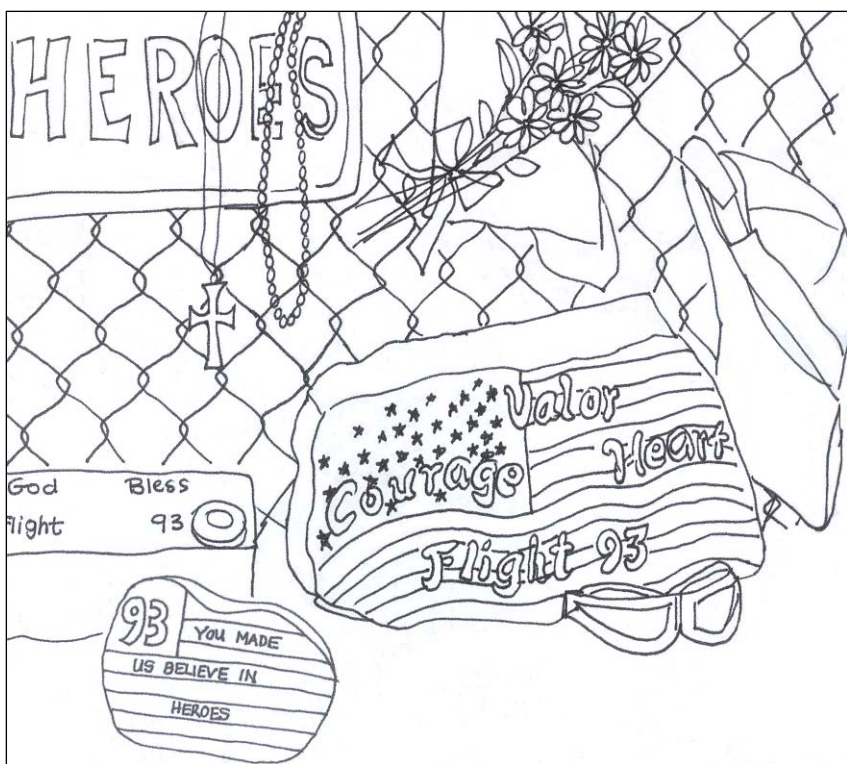


What is a tribute?

A tribute is something you do, or say, or give...  
to remember, honor or thank someone.

What does it mean to honor someone?

It means to show that someone is important to  
you because of something they did.



Who do these tributes honor?

The passengers and crew of Flight 93.

Why? Because on September 11, 2001, they made their plane come down in a field instead of where a lot of people live or work. These heroes all died, but they kept many people safe that day. They are heroes because they were brave and made the choice to think of others and not just themselves.

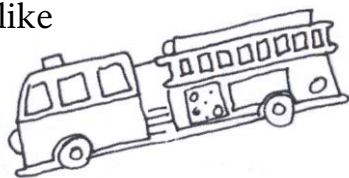
Superheroes are pretend, but there are real heroes, too. Who is a hero to you?  
Draw your hero here.

When Chris and I walked around, we took some time to look at the tributes.

We thought about who might have left them to remember and to say thank you to the heroes of Flight 93.

Many of the tributes came from firefighters and police. Firefighters and police keep people safe every day. They are brave and choose to help others in the jobs that they have.

Some of the tributes can be toys of things that these helpers use, like a toy firetruck or a toy police car.



Other tributes can be real things that they actually use, like their hats, or boots, or uniforms.





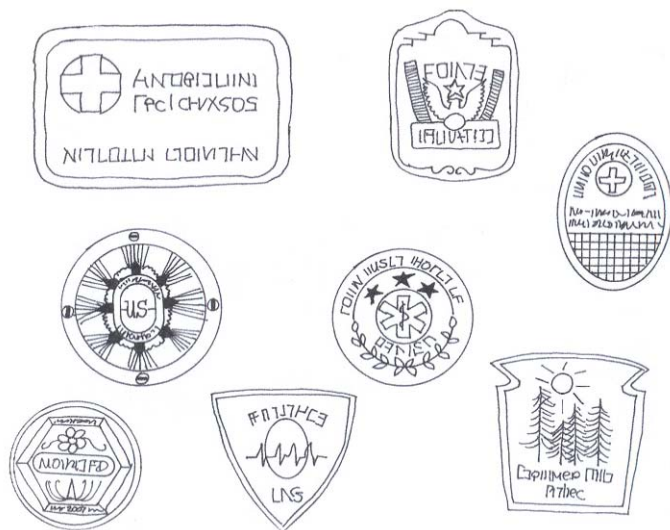
There were also 40 angels.  
Each angel was named for one of the  
passengers or crew. The visitors  
who made the angels wanted to  
remember each hero.



Chris and I walked up to each angel.  
We thought about the person whose name  
was on it, and thanked them in our hearts.

Many patches were left as tributes to the heroes. Patches stand for a certain group of people or things. Each patch says that this whole group honors the heroes.

Many patches were from helpers like doctors, nurses, the military, the police, firefighters, the American Red Cross and Salvation Army. There were other groups, too, that wanted to show their thanks. Here are some patches:

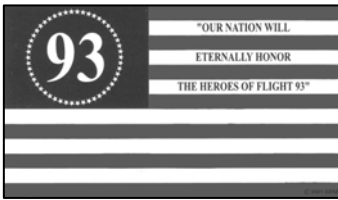


It was very windy the day we visited. You could hear the wind blowing and that added to the other sounds of people, cars and birds. What did you hear on your visit?

Because it was so windy, I heard all the flags flapping. Chris' Dad said each flag was different and told us something special.

There were flags of different countries like the United States, Japan and Germany.  
What colors are in the United States flag?

There were other flags that used those same colors and shapes to specially honor the heroes of Flight 93. Some looked like this:

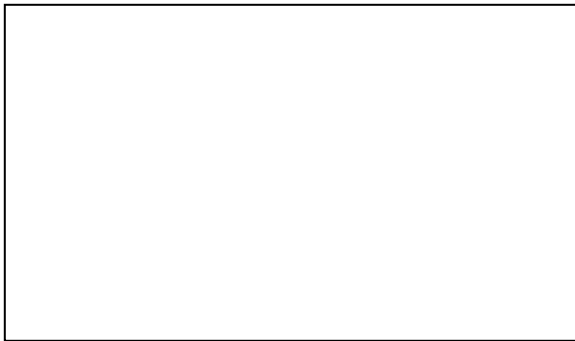


Flight 93 Hero Flag



National Remembrance Flag

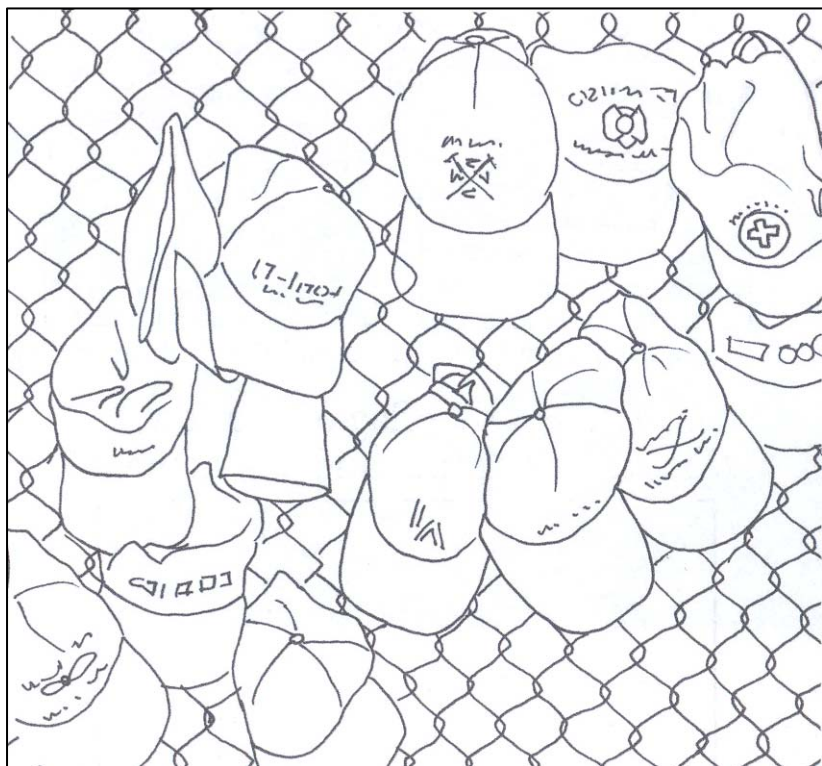
Can you draw a flag of your own?  
What do the shapes and colors mean?



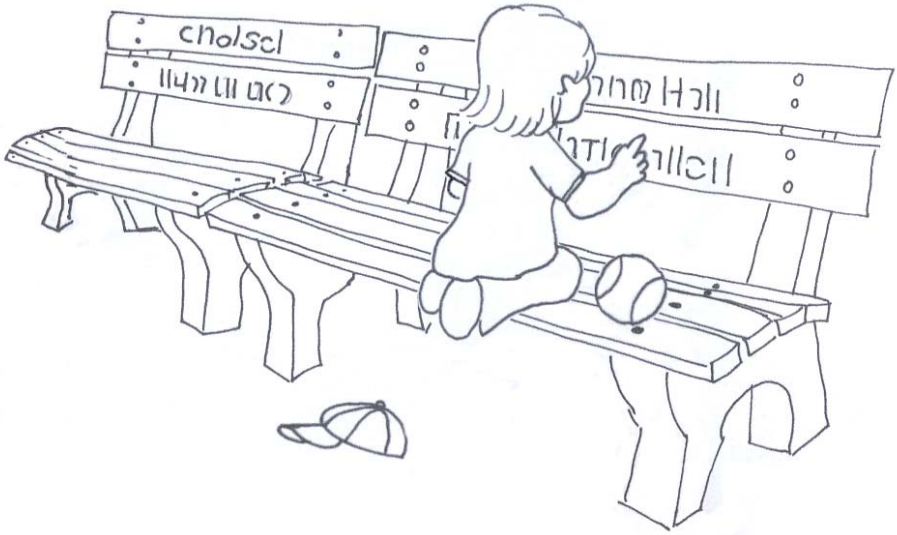
Chris and Chris' Dad took their hats off while we were at the memorial.

Taking off your hat is something you can do as a tribute to the heroes and to show that you honor them.

Some visitors have even left their hats behind as a lasting tribute to the heroes of Flight 93.



We sat on some benches that were hand  
made as special tributes by school  
children in the 7<sup>th</sup> and  
8<sup>th</sup> grades.



Each bench  
has names of the  
passengers and crew on them.  
They are there so visitors can sit  
and think about what happened that day.

As we sat there, Chris traced the name  
carved on the bench with a finger.  
Chris quietly said thank you.  
I did too.

Draw one of the tributes you saw here.  
Who do you think left it and why?

Every tribute was there because someone wanted to make or leave something to honor and thank the passengers and crew.

They are heroes because they chose to make a difference: to keep others safe and not just think of themselves.

If everyone chose to do something for someone else, what a difference that could make! Especially for the person or people they do it for. It also gives us a good feeling to be helpful to others.

Even small things can make a difference to someone. What can you do that makes a difference to someone?

Draw or write your answer here.

Then Chris said, “I want to leave a tribute, too. I want to say thank you to the heroes for keeping so many people safe.”

Chris’ Mom said that was a good idea. But remember, a tribute can also be something we say or do in honor of the heroes.

Chris thought about it but still wanted to leave *something*. And then he said, “What about Zoomer?”

Hmmm, instead of being a **team** with Chris, I could be a **tribute**. We could choose to think of the passengers and crew of Flight 93, instead of just ourselves. We could choose to help others to remember, honor and say thank you to the heroes.



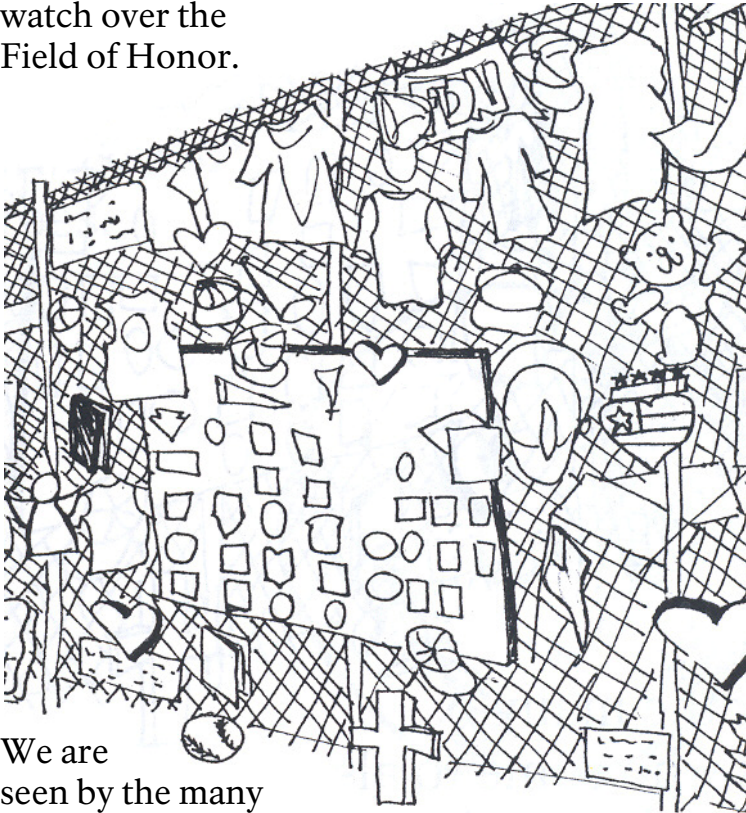
That's even *better* than playing a softball game!

So that day I joined the other tributes around the fence. Now I am on a much **bigger** team!



Can you find me in this drawing?

As tributes, we get to  
watch over the  
Field of Honor.



We are  
seen by the many  
visitors who come to also  
thank and honor the heroes.

And we're joined by new tributes that are added  
every day!

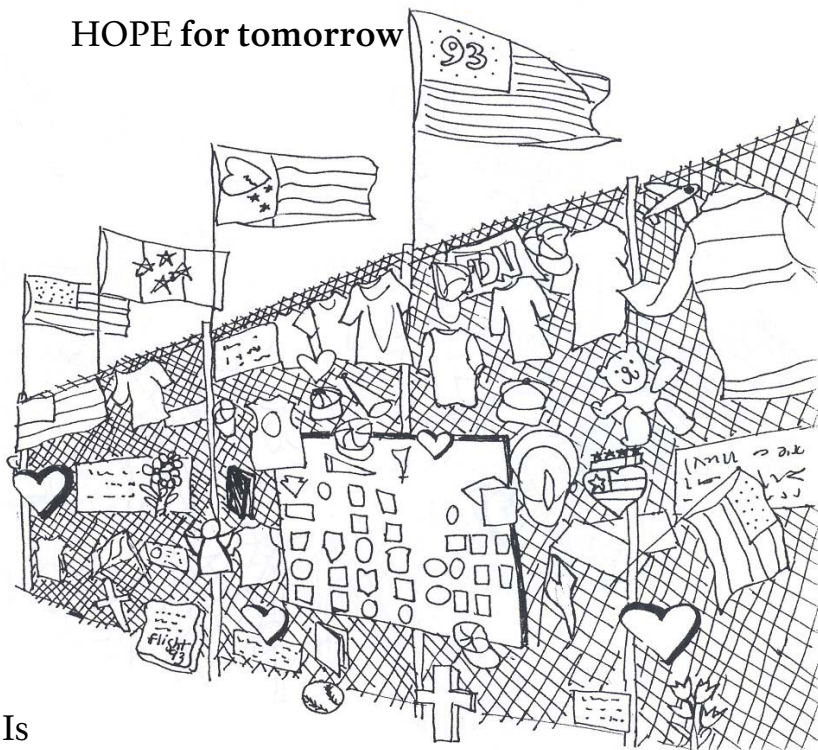
Now when the visitors drive up over the top of  
the hill, they see all of us tributes, like one big sign  
that says.....

**REMEMBER** September 11, 2001

**HONOR** the heroes of Flight 93

**CHOOSE** to make a difference

**HOPE** for tomorrow



Is  
there  
anything you'd like  
to tell the passengers and  
crew of Flight 93? Have someone write it here  
or on a card to leave in the box at the Memorial site.

**FLIGHT 93  
NATIONAL  
MEMORIAL**



**REMEMBER**

September 11,  
2001

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Explore, Learn, Protect:  
Be a Junior Ranger



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